Federal Plant Species Accounts

Alkali Primrose	*Primula alcalina*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	Sensitive - Dillon Field Office
USFS Status:	Sensitive - Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, Dillon Ranger District
Montana Status:	S1
Idaho Status:	S2
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Alkali primrose flowers in May and early June. Alkali primrose is distinguished by its tight rosette of crinkly leaves, and solitary, leafless flower stalk usually around 15 cm tall terminated by a tight umbel of white flowers. The white mealy bloom covering young leaves is absent from older, mature leaves.
Distribution:	Idaho primrose is endemic to east-central Idaho and adjacent Montana. Six populations have been documented in Clark, Custer and Lemhi counties, Idaho, and one in Beaverhead County, Montana. A second Beaverhead County population is assumed extinct.
Habitat:	Alkali primrose is found in moist to wet alkaline meadows near headwaters streams at 6,300 to 7,200 feet elevation. The soil surface often displays hummock-hollow topography. Soils in the meadows are alluvial, alkaline, fine-textured, light-colored soils are derived from outwash of predominantly carbonate rocks of the Beaverhead, Lemhi, and Lost River ranges. Soil pH averaged 8.9-9.6 at study sites in Idaho (Moseley 1989).
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Known occurrences in southwest MT and east-central Idaho. Southwest MT sites near proposed MSTI routes. ID sites appear to be west, and outside, of MSTI proposed routes.
Sources:	IDFG 2005, Moseley 1995, MTFWP 2008

Alpine Meadowrue	*Thalictrum alpinum*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	Sensitive - Dillon Field Office
USFS Status:	Sensitive - Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, Dillon Ranger District, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, Madison Ranger District, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, Pintler Ranger District (Philipsburg Office)
Montana Status:	S2
Idaho Status:	-
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Alpine meadowrue flowers in late May and June. Alpine meadowrue is less than 20 cm tall with thin stems and all leaves near the base (and consequently is very inconspicuous among the taller, denser graminoids with which it grows). Alpine Meadowrue is a small, perennial forb with nearly leafless stems that are 3-18 cm tall and grows from extensive rhizomes.
Distribution:	Alpine meadowrue has been found in southwest MT. MT is at the edge of the range for Alpine meadowrue.
Habitat:	Alpine meadowrue typically grows in moist montane and lower subalpine areas. In southwestern Montana, it occurs in moist alkaline meadows.

Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Alpine meadowrue has been found in Beaverhead, Deer Lodge, and Granite Counties of MT. Southwest MT sites near proposed MSTI routes.
Sources:	MTFWP 2008

Bitterroot Milkvetch	*Astragalus scaphoides*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	Sensitive - Dillon Field Office
USFS Status:	Sensitive - Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, Dillon Ranger District
Montana Status:	S2
Idaho Status:	-
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Bitterroot milkvetch.
Distribution:	Has been found only in Lemhi County, ID and Beaverhead County, Montana for this area.
Habitat:	Bitterroot milkvetch has been found in sagebrush grasslands, on coarse silty soils derived from basalt, or limestone (Lesica 1984), along drainages between rocky, steep upper slopes and benches along drainage ways, on south- and southwest-facing slopes, with a high percentage of bare ground.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Bitterroot milkvetch has been documented only in Lemhi County, Idaho and Beaverhead County, MT. MT sites may be near proposed MSTI routes.
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, Lesica 1984

Blue Grama	*Bouteloua gracilis*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	Type 2-ID
USFS Status:	-
Montana Status:	-
Idaho Status:	S2
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Blue grama is a native, perennial, warm season grass that initiates growth in May or June, and flowers in July to August (Stubbendieck et al. 1997).
Distribution:	Wide distribution across the central US from Canada to Mexico.
Habitat:	Blue grama occurs in open grasslands, plains, foothills, and woodlands in sandy or gravelly soils. Blue grama is not found in poorly drained soils.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	The principal range of blue grama is east of the proposed MSTI routes.
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, Stubbendieck et al. 1997

Chicken Sage / Nuttall's False Sagebrush	*Sphaeromeria argentea*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	Sensitive - Dillon Field Office
USFS Status:	None
Montana Status:	S2S3
Idaho Status:	-
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Chicken sage is an aromatic, long-lived perennial, mat-forming forb or sub-shrub, similar to small low growing sagebrush, with multiple

	flowering shoots that are 5-20 cm high, flowering in June and early July.
Distribution:	Known to occur in east-central Idaho and adjacent Beaverhead County, Montana.
Habitat:	Chicken sage grows on shallow arid and alkaline soils of the sagebrush steppe, in valleys and foothills.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Chicken sage has been found at sites in Beaverhead County, MT, and may be near the proposed MSTI routes.
Sources:	MTFWP 2008

Felwort / Marsh Felwort	*Lomatogonium rotatum*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	Sensitive - Dillon Field Office
USFS Status:	None
Montana Status:	S1
Idaho Status:	S1
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Felwort is a small annual with white or bluish flowers on unbranched stems 5-15 cm high. Felwort flowers in August.
Distribution:	Only two known occurrences in Montana in Beaverhead County.
Habitat:	Alkaline meadows and fens in the montane zone.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Marsh felwort has been found in Beaverhead County, MT near the proposed MSTI routes.
Sources:	MTFWP 2008

Idaho Sedge	*Carex idahoa*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	Sensitive - Butte Field Office, Dillon Field Office, Missoula Field Office
USFS Status:	Sensitive - Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest: Butte Ranger District, Dillon Ranger District, Jefferson Ranger District, Wisdom Ranger District
Montana Status:	S2S3
Idaho Status:	S2
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Idaho sedge is a perennial, rhizomatous, plant producing small clumps of stems that reach 20-35 cm in height. Idaho sedge fruits mature in July and August.
Distribution:	Idaho sedge has been found in Southwest Montana and adjacent Idaho.
Habitat:	Idaho sedge inhabits moist alkaline meadows, and is commonly found on terraces of headwater streams above 6000 feet.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Idaho sedge has been found at multiple sites in Beaverhead County, MT near the proposed MSTI routes.
Sources:	MTFWP 2008

Lemhi Milkvetch	*Astragalus aquilonius*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	Type 2-ID
USFS Status:	Sensitive-ID
Montana Status:	-
Idaho Status:	S3
Listing Data:	None

Natural History:	Lemhi milkvetch is a taprooted, herbaceous, short-lived perennial with greenish-ashy compound leaves with short, fine hairs. Lemhi milkvetch flowers from May to July with fruit present as late as September.
Distribution:	Endemic to east-central ID, in Custer, Butte, and Lemhi Counties.
Habitat:	Lemhi milkvetch occurs on gently to steep, dry, unstable slopes, talus, washes, alluvial debris, and flats, usually on southerly aspects having gravelly and sandy, to ashy and occasionally clayey soils.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Lemhi milkvetch occurs in Custer, Butte, and Lemhi Counties, ID. The Butte sites may be near the proposed MSTI routes.
Sources:	IDFG 2005

Low Braya	*Braya humilis*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	Sensitive - Dillon Field Office
USFS Status:	None - Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, Wise River Ranger Distri
Montana Status:	S1
Idaho Status:	-
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Low Braya is a perennial, short-lived, few to several stems, 3-20 cm long, flowering in late July
Distribution:	Low Braya has been found in two (2) locations in Beaverhead County, MT.
Habitat:	Low Braya occurs in moist, sparsely vegetated calcareous soils in alpine areas.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Low Braya may occur near the proposed MSTI routes in southern Beaverhead County, MT.
Sources:	MTFWP 2008

Mealy / Jones Primrose	*Primula incana*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	Sensitive - Butte Field Office, Dillon Field Office
USFS Status:	Sensitive - Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, Dillon Ranger District, Madison Ranger District
Montana Status:	S2
Idaho Status:	S1
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Mealy primrose is a tall, up to 46 cm in height, slender forb with lavender flowers containing a yellowish center, flowering in May to June.
Distribution:	General distribution of Mealy primrose is from Utah and Colorado north to Alaska and east to Quebec, and has been found at 15 extant sites in MT.
Habitat:	Saturated, calcareous wetlands or wet meadows with relatively stable water tables.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Mealy primrose sites in Beaverhead County, MT may be near the proposed MSTI routes.
Sources:	MTFWP 2008

Mourning Milkvetch	*Astragalus atratus*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	S

USFS Status:	-
Montana Status:	-
Idaho Status:	S3
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Flower late May to July
Distribution:	Endemic to the north edge of the Snake River Plains in s Blaine, s Camas, n Lincoln, and Gooding counties, Idaho, central around the Mount Bennett Hills
Habitat:	Sagebrush/grass communities in thin soil of stony basalt flats where moist in spring, below 1500 m elevation
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Known occurrence in Lincoln and Blaine Counties in the project area.
Sources:	NatureServe 2008

Parry's Fleabane	*Erigeron parryi*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	Sensitive - Dillon Field Office
USFS Status:	None
Montana Status:	S2
Idaho Status:	-
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Parry's fleabane is a small, slender stemmed fleabane, similar to *E. ochroleucus*, that occupies habitats with sparse vegetation,
Distribution:	Endemic to southwest Montana
Habitat:	Parry's fleabane occurs at higher elevations (up to 6200 feet) usually in limestone soils on ridgetops, slopes, and outcrops.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Several locations of Parry's fleabane in southwest Beaverhead County, MT may be near the proposed MSTI routes.
Sources:	MTFWP 2008, Hitchcock and Cronquist 1987

Picabo Milkvetch	*Astragalus oniciformis*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	Type 3-ID
USFS Status:	-
Montana Status:	-
Idaho Status:	S3
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Picabo milkvetch is a prostrate perennial forb with numerous stems from branched caudex growing from a slender taproot. Stems are 10-25 cm in length with leaves covered with short, white "hairs" with small cream-white flowers appearing in mid-May.
Distribution:	Picabo milkvetch is endemic to the north-central portion of the eastern Snake River Plain in Lincoln, Minidoka, and southern Blaine Counties, ID.
Habitat:	Picabo milkvetch occurs on sandy sites with deep well-drained, stable, sandy or sandy-loam soils.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Picabo milkvetch has been found in Lincoln and Blaine Counties, ID and may occur near the proposed MSTI routes.
Sources:	IDFG 2005

Pygmy Suncup / Winged-seed Evening Primrose	*Camissonia pterosperma*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	-
USFS Status:	-
Montana Status:	-
Idaho Status:	S2
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	A slender, simple or branched, small annual forb up to about 15 cm tall, with few to many tiny spreading hairs, lance-shaped stem leaves, with white flowers and a yellow center, flowering from mid-May to mid-June
Distribution:	Wing-seeded evening primrose occurs from southeastern Oregon and adjacent southwestern Idaho, south through Nevada to Inyo County, California, northern Arizona, and portions of Utah; and then sparsely in east-central Idaho.
Habitat:	Winged-seeded evening primrose is generally found on slopes, ridges, and washes in the sagebrush and juniper ecotypes, on gravelly-silty soils, with southerly-facing limestone slopes.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Wing-seeded evening-primrose has been found in the low, southern ends of the Lost River, Lemhi, and Beaverhead ranges in Butte and Clark counties, ID. Some of the locations may be near the proposed MSTI routes.
Sources:	IDFG 2005

Railhead Milkvetch	*Astragalus terminalis*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	Sensitive - Dillon Field Office
USFS Status:	None
Montana Status:	S2
Idaho Status:	-
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Railhead milkvetch is a taprooted, tufted, perennial forb with several erect stems that may reach 5-30 cm in height, with dense flower clusters, and flowering from June to mid-July.
Distribution:	Railhead milkvetch is regionally endemic northwestern WY, central ID, and southwestern MT.
Habitat:	Railhead milkvetch in Montana occurs in diverse habitats, from valley grasslands to open eroding slopes, to ridge crests, to barren clay buttes and dry subalpine meadows.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Most know sites of railhead milkvetch in MT appear to be east of the proposed MSTI routes.
Sources:	MTFWP 2008

Railroad Canyon Wild Buckwheat	*Eriogonum soliceps*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	Sensitive - Dillon Field Office
USFS Status:	None
Montana Status:	S2

Idaho Status:	S1
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Railroad Canyon wild buckwheat is a recently described species from two locations, one in southern Beaverhead County, MT and the other in adjacent Lemhi County, ID.
Distribution:	Regional endemic to southwest Montana and adjacent Lemhi Co., Idaho
Habitat:	Railroad Canyon wild buckwheat occupies sparse, dry, coarse, alkaline clay sites on southern slopes.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	The southwestern Beaverhead County, MT location may be near the proposed MSTI routes.
Sources:	MTFWP 2008

Red Sage / Perennial Summer-cypress	*Kochia americana*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	Sensitive - Dillon Field Office
USFS Status:	None - Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, Dillon Ranger District
Montana Status:	S1
Idaho Status:	-
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Red Sage is a perennial, with a woody base, and simple or branched, herbaceous stems, growing up to 50 cm high, flowering from June to August.
Distribution:	Red sage general distribution is from southeast Oregon to California, east to southern Idaho to southern Montana, Wyoming, Colorado and New Mexico. T, WY, CO, and NM. Peripheral
Habitat:	Red sage is found in saline or alkaline soils in valleys and foothills
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Red sage is at the edge of its range in Beaverhead County, MT; however, red sage may occur near the proposed MSTI routes.
Sources:	MTFWP 2008

Rocky Mountain / Wool-bearing Dandelion	*Taraxacum eriophorum*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	Sensitive - Dillon Field Office
USFS Status:	None - Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, Dillon Ranger District, Madison Ranger District, Pintler Ranger District (Philipsburg Office)
Montana Status:	S2
Idaho Status:	-
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Rocky Mountain Dandelion is a stemless, perennial forb with erect ascending, glabrous or sparsely hairy flower stalks, up to 30 cm that flowers from May to August.
Distribution:	The general distribution of Rocky Mountain dandelion is from Alaska to Washington and east to Wyoming, usually in low density populations.
Habitat:	Rocky Mountain dandelion is a native dandelion that grows in open riparian and wetland areas of the foothills and montane ecotypes, in silty, saturated, or semi-saturated soils.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Rocky Mountain dandelion has been found in Beaverhead, Granite, Madison, and Park Counties, MT with southwestern Beaverhead County

	sites potentially near the proposed MSTI routes.
Sources:	MTFWP 2008

Scallop-leaf Lousewort	*Pedicularis crenulata*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	Sensitive - Dillon Field Office
USFS Status:	None
Montana Status:	S1
Idaho Status:	-
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Scallop-leaf lousewort is a thick stemmed, opposite leaf, forb with lavender flowers. This species is not listed in the Flora of the Pacific Northwest (Hitchcock and Cronquist 1987).
Distribution:	Known to occur in two (2) populations in southwest Montana
Habitat:	Scallop-leaf lousewort is found in riparian meadow habitats
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Scallop-leaf lousewort has been found at two (2) sites in Beaverhead County, MT; however, these sites appear to be east of the proposed MSTI routes.
Sources:	MTFWP 2008

Simple Kobresia	*Kobresia simpliciuscula*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	Sensitive - Dillon Field Office
USFS Status:	None - Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, Pintler Ranger District (Philipsburg Office); Custer National Forest, Beartooth Ranger District; Gallatin National Forest, Livingston Ranger District
Montana Status:	S2
Idaho Status:	S2
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Simple Kobresia is a sedge-like plant that forms small bunches with triangular stems up to 15 cm tall, which develops mature fruit in July and August.
Distribution:	The general distribution of simple kobresia is circumpolar, in North America from Alaska to Greenland and south to New Brunswick, northern Ontario, Alberta, and in the Rocky Mountains south to Montana, Utah, northwest Wyoming, and central Colorado
Habitat:	Simple kobresia is usually found in alpine moist tundra
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Simple kobresia has been found in Beaverhead, Carbon, Glacier, Granite, Park, and Teton Counties, MT; however, there is only one location in southwest Beaverhead County that may be near the proposed MSTI routes.
Sources:	MTFWP 2008

Slender Thelypody	*Thelypodium sagittatum*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	Sensitive - Dillon Field Office
USFS Status:	None - Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, Dillon Ranger District; Gallatin National Forest, Hebgen Lake Ranger District
Montana Status:	S2
Idaho Status:	-

Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Slender Thelypody is an herbaceous biennial or short-lived perennial with solitary, simple or branched stems that are 30-08 cm high growing from a taproot, with dense clustered flowers, flowering and fruiting from late May to mid-July.
Distribution:	General distribution is from southeast Washington to California, east to Montana and Wyoming.
Habitat:	Slender thelypody is usually found in mesic, alkaline meadows, from valleys to montane.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Slender thelypody has been found in Beaverhead, Flathead, Gallatin, and Lake Counties, MT; with the locations in southwest Beaverhead County possibly near the proposed MSTI routes.
Sources:	MTFWP 2008

Small-flowered Pennycress	*Thlaspi parviflorum*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	Sensitive - Dillon Field Office
USFS Status:	None - Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest: Butte Ranger District, Madison Ranger District; Custer National Forest, Beartooth Ranger District; Gallatin National Forest, Gardiner Ranger District
Montana Status:	S2
Idaho Status:	-
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Small-flowered pennycress is a taprooted biennial or short-lived perennial that reaches 10-30 cm in height, flowers in late June to early July, and fruit matures in August.
Distribution:	General distribution is from central Idaho, northwestern Wyoming (Absarokas, Wind Rivers, and southwestern Bighorns, greater Yellowstone area), and Montana.
Habitat:	Small-flowered pennycress is found from mid-elevation grasslands to alpine turf (6,500 to 10,000 feet), from mesic to xeric sites.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Small-flowered pennycress has been found in Beaverhead, Carbon, Madison, Park, and Silver Bow Counties, MT; however, several of the sites in southwestern Beaverhead County may be near the proposed MSTI routes.
Sources:	MTFWP 2008

Spreading Gilia / Lavender Dwarf Standing-cypress	*Ipomopsis polycladon*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	Type 3-ID
USFS Status:	-
Montana Status:	-
Idaho Status:	S2
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Spreading gilia (synonymous with *Gilia polycladon*) is a taprooted annual, growing up to 15 cm tall, with several slender, rigid, upright branches, with dense clusters of small white flowers, flowering from April through

	June.
Distribution:	Spreading gilia is generally found from Mexico north to California, west to Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and western Colorado and Wyoming, Utah and Nevada, southern Idaho and adjacent Oregon.
Habitat:	Spreading gilia is usually found in dry, open areas in desert shrub communities.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Spreading gilia has been documented in Ada, Elmore, and Owyhee counties in southwestern Idaho, and Butte and Power counties in eastern Idaho. The locations in Butte County may be near the proposed MSTI routes.
Sources:	IDFG 2005

Federal Animal Species Accounts

American White Pelican	*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	MT: none; ID type 2
USFS Status:	None
Montana Status:	Tier 3
Idaho Status:	Protected non-game
Listing Data:	N/a
Natural History:	American White Pelicans are a highly gregarious species forming large nesting colonies on peninsulas and islands of inland lakes. Nest isolation from mammalian predators appears critical. In Montana, colonies form in April with egg-laying and incubation occur in late April through May. Clutch size averages 2 eggs and young hatch out in late May and June after approximately 30 days of incubation. Departure for winter range begins in late August. Diet is generalized consisting of aquatic vertebrate species including fish and large salamanders. Breeding adults may consume 40% of their body mass each day.
Distribution:	American white pelicans are widely scattered throughout their distribution in the western US concentrating in large breeding colonies at water bodies providing appropriate habitat features. They may range widely to forage and during migration.
Habitat:	Preferred habitat includes a variety of aquatic and wetland habitats, including rivers, lakes, reservoirs (both large and small), estuaries, bays, marshes, and sometimes in inshore marine habitats. Nesting habitat consists of low relief islands and peninsulas of lentic water bodies.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	This species is migratory throughout the MT and ID project area. Potential breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2, 28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007

Bald eagle	*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*

USFWS Status:	De-listed
BLM Status:	MT: Special Status; ID: Sensitive Species Type 1
USFS Status:	Threatened
Montana Status:	Tier 1
Idaho Status:	Threatened
Listing Data:	N/a
Natural History:	Montana supports both resident and migratory bald eagles. Resident populations may remain near breeding habitat throughout the year or seasonally transit to areas of milder winter conditions and abundant food sources. Migrants transit the state seeking prey along north-south trending mountain ranges. In some areas historic abundance of eagles has been tied to fluctuations in prey availability. Diet consists primarily of fish (salmonids, suckers and whitefish); however, waterfowl as well as other birds, carrion and mammals are also taken. Breeding dates in Montana range from March to July with egg laying occurring during March and April. Two eggs are typically laid. Incubation lasts 5 weeks; with fledging occurring at 10 to 12.5 weeks.
Distribution:	Bald eagles may occur throughout the state in appropriate habitats supporting prey species and nesting and perch sites.
Habitat:	Bald eagles are typically found in forested mountainous habitats providing tree nest sites in proximity to aquatic (river, lake and wetland) feeding areas. Nest sites are located in mature stands of timber with large diameter ponderosa pine, Douglas fir or cottonwood available. Upland sites with terrestrial prey provide important winter range. Feeding, roosting and nesting perches are used.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Both migratory and resident throughout MT and ID, potential breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2, 28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007

Black-tailed prairie dog	*Cynomys ludovicianus*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	MT: Sensitive Species
USFS Status:	Sensitive
Montana Status:	Tier 1
Idaho Status:	Does not occur
Listing Data:	N/a
Natural History:	The black-tailed prairie dog is a ground squirrel-related species constructing burrows in low relief grasslands and sparse grassy shrublands. They typically live in large colonies organized around family units called coteries further organized into wards and extensive towns. The extent of towns is ultimately governed by soil, vegetation, and topography. Black-tailed prairie dog densities can vary widely within towns primarily driven by recruitment, forage, predation and disease. Breeding system is polygynous organized around harems. Litters range from 3 to 5 pups. Breeding age is attained at two years with females enter estrous once each year.

Distribution:	A species of the Great Plains, black-tailed prairie dog distribution reaches into eastern and central Montana in prairies and other low-relief environments with appropriate soils and vegetation. The western extent of their distribution captures the area around Butte and Helena. This species does not occur in Idaho.
Habitat:	Within their distribution black-tailed prairie dogs frequent habitats dominated by blue grama, western wheatgrass and big sagebrush. Soils supporting burrows are fine to medium textured silty clay loam, sandy clay loam and loams.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Black-tailed prairie dog towns occur near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3),
Sources:	Davis and Schmidly 1994; MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007

Black tern *Chlidonias niger*

USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	MT: Sensitive Species; ID: Sensitive Species Type 3
USFS Status:	None
Montana Status:	Tier 1
Idaho Status:	Protected nongame
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	A migrate wintering in South America, black terns find summer breeding habitat in marshes, small ponds and wetlands. In Montana, birds arrive during May and June forming loose colonial associations. Departure to winter range occurs during September. Breeding typically begins in early to mid-June; however, earlier dates have been recorded. Birds reach breeding age at their second year. Clutch size varies from 1 to 6 eggs with 3 being very common. Incubation is typically 20 days; hatching is asynchronous. Fledging occurs at 20 to 24 days. Unique among American terns, black terns feed on insects during the breeding season as well as fish.
Distribution:	Black terns range across most of the interior US. During migration they may be encountered throughout Montana; breeding distribution is limited to a band running along the US boarder with Canada and then sweeping southward from Kalispell toward Dillon and the Idaho boarder. Breeding in southern Idaho occurs across the eastern and central Snake River Plain in areas with appropriate wetland and marsh habitat. Breeding is considered limited in Idaho.
Habitat:	Breeding habitat for black terns is characterized by shallow freshwater marshes with emergent vegetation. These areas may be found in conjunction with the margins of rivers, lakes, islands and sloughs. Vegetation consists of varying combinations of as wide variety of plant species including bulrushes, sedges, cattail, rushes and mesic grasses.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Primarily migratory throughout MT and ID, potential breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2, 28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007

Brewer's sparrow	*Spizella breweri*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	MT: Sensitive Species; ID: Sensitive Species Type 3
USFS Status:	None
Montana Status:	Tier 2
Idaho Status:	Protected nongame
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Brewer's sparrows are a shrub obligate species finding summer habitat in the Great Basin and environs. Birds winter in an area extending from the deep southwestern US to central Mexico. Breeding birds arrive in the Bozeman area from mid to late May and depart in mid-August. Clutch size averages 3.26 in nests build 6 16 inches above the ground. The nesting period lasts from mid-June to mid-July. Diet is approximately 80% insects, the remainder being grass seeds. Prey are typically greened from shrubs and other vegetation.
Distribution:	Brewer's sparrows occur throughout the Great Basin and surrounding sagebrush shrubsteppe. This core distribution further extends into Canada, North Dakota, New Mexico, Arizona and southern California. Current distribution is presumed similar to historic.
Habitat:	Brewer's sparrows of our area are denizens of the shrubsteppe, finding important breeding, foraging and cover habitat in big sagebrush dominated habitats. Sagebrush communities that are fragmented, degraded or pervaded by exotic grasses and forbs provide poor habitat and support few or no Brewer's sparrows.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Brewer's sparrows may occur through out the project area. The Idaho Department of Fish and Game considers the INL a critical habitat reserve. potential breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2, 28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007

Canada lynx	*Lynx canadensis*
USFWS Status:	Threatened
BLM Status:	MT: Special Status; ID: Sensitive Species Type 1
USFS Status:	Threatened
Montana Status:	Tier 1
Idaho Status:	Furbearing animal; Threatened
Listing Data:	March 20, 2000
Natural History:	Canada lynx are a species of higher elevation subalpine forest often hunting along habitat edges adjacent to dense cover. Prey include snowshoe hares as well as a variety of birds and small mammals. Females enter estrous once each year with mating occurring in February and March. Gestation is 9 to 10 weeks with 1 to 5 kittens born in crude dens located in fallen logs, stumps, under rock ledges and the like. Young are weaned at 5 months but remain with the mother and hunt with her until the next winter's estrous. Adults are non-associative outside of breeding although territorial overlap between males and breeding females does occur. Home ranges may exceed 300 square kilometers.
Distribution:	Canada lynx are widely scattered across appropriate higher elevation

	habitats of the north and central Rocky mountains.
Habitat:	Preferred hunting habitats include higher elevation subalpine forest in an early stage of succession. Important forest species include cedar, hemlock, Englemann spruce, Douglas fir and lodgepole pine. Individual lynx occupy expansive home ranges and require large tracts of appropriate forest habitat. Consistent deep winter snows appear to be an essential habitat feature as well. Dens are established in mature forests with abundant deadfall. Canada lynx avoid open habitats and are reported to not cross forest openings greater than 100m; however, high quality shrubsteppe communities may provide important linkage habitats.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	potential breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2, 28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).
Sources:	ADW 2008, IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007; Nowak 1991.

Ferruginous hawk	*Buteo regalis*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	MT: Sensitive Species; ID: Sensitive Species Type 3
USFS Status:	None
Montana Status:	Tier 2
Idaho Status:	Protected nongame
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	The ferruginous hawk is a migratory raptor of western plains and deserts. Most hawks arrive in Montana from mid-March to April. Nest may be constructed on the ground or in large shrubs or isolated trees. Bovine dung (historically bison) is typically used to line the nest cup. Average clutch size in Montana ranges from 2.57 to 3.37. Fledging occurs from late June to mid-July. Fall departure begins in August. Migrants move south-to-westward following grasslands to lower latitude and more coastal climates. Dominant prey items include white-tailed jackrabbits, western meadowlarks, ground squirrels and snakes. Ferruginous hawks hunt from the air during low light conditions of sunrise or sunset.
Distribution:	Ferruginous hawks breed throughout western North America. The species is absent for forested habitats but is widespread in open country within this area. Birds are relatively uncommon throughout their range. Distribution shifts southward and toward the coast during winter with birds considered absent from the project area. Some year round residency occurs in extreme southern Idaho.
Habitat:	Ferruginous hawk habitat is described as grasslands, prairies, shrub-grasslands and sagebrush steppe in flat to rolling landscapes. They may become locally abundant at the interface between piñon-juniper and high quality sagebrush steppe habitats. For nesting, areas converted to agriculture and crested wheatgrass are avoided. Areas with open vegetation cover that permit good visibility for aerial hunting are important. During winter, agricultural fields in post-harvest stubble provide prey habitat in some areas.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Primarily migratory throughout MT and ID, potential breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2, 28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007

Franklin's gull	*Larus pipixcan*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	MT: Sensitive Species
USFS Status:	None
Montana Status:	Tier 2
Idaho Status:	Protected nongame
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Franklin's gulls arrive in Montana in mid-April. Colonial nesting is known from 5 locations in MT and 6 locations in ID. Platform nests are constructed in floating or emergent vegetation in inundated marsh settings and may occur at high densities (5 to 111 nests per 0.1 acres). Clutch size

	ranges from 1 to 4 eggs. Sinking nests are tended by both parents and older chicks. Birds depart the MT and ID in the fall, being entirely absent by mid-October. Flocking of large numbers of Franklin's gulls occurs during migration and feeding. Feeding is typically conducted while walking or swimming. Diet consists of a variety of small invertebrates with some vertebrate material. Seeds and incidental vegetal material are also taken. During migration, feeding at agricultural fields occurs. Birds often follow plows to snap up exposed earthworms.
Distribution:	Franklin's gull is a species of interior prairie wetlands. The bulk of the breeding population occurs in the upper Great Plains.
Habitat:	Nesting habitat is found in large permanently inundated prairie marshes with emergent vegetation or floating mats. Nests are constructed over water in areas supporting cattails and bulrushes. Foraging habitat includes marshes, irrigated fields and pastures.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Franklin's gull finds potential breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2, 28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007

Fringed myotis	*Myotis thysanodes*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	MT: Sensitive Species; ID: Sensitive Species Type 3
USFS Status:	None
Montana Status:	Tier 2
Idaho Status:	Protected non-game
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	The fringed myotis is an insectivorous bat species inhabiting shrub and woodlands in proximity to cave, mine or rock roost sites. It distinguished by a fringe of stiff hairs along the trailing edge of the tail flight membrane. Little is known about seasonal movements and reproduction in our area. Winter absence would suggest the species is migratory; however, winter habitat and hibernation requirements are not well described. During the summer activity season bats may shuttle significant distances between important habitat features (day roosts, night roosts, feeding areas, and water) and may therefore be incidentally encountered in a great variety of habitat types. Use of caves, mines or man-made structures is an important aspect of their natural history. Fringed myotis feed on a variety of insects captured over water or near vegetation surfaces. "Hover-gleening" is often employed.
Distribution:	The fringe myotis is a species of western North America distributed from southern British Columbia south to southern Mexico and eastward along an irregular margin capturing portions of western MT, west central ID, southern UT, CO, extreme southern WY and western NM. It appears absent from some higher areas of the northern Rocky Mountains and the interior Great Basin.
Habitat:	Fringed myotis may be found active in a variety of woody environments including shrubsteppe and oak, piñon/ juniper woodlands as well as ponderosa pine forests. They may also occasion desertic grasslands in proximity to other important habitat features. Foraging is conducted over

	water and among woody vegetation. Roost habitats include caves, mines, fractured rock faces, boulder piles and snags. Human structures may also be used as roosts. Quality habitat includes a mosaic of essential feature in proximity to each other.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	This species is rare to absent within the project area. potential breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2, 28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007, O'Farrell and Studier 1980

Golden eagle	*Aquila chrysaetos*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	MT: Sensitive ID:
USFS Status:	None
Montana Status:	Tier 2
Idaho Status:	Protected non-game
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Golden eagles are a large raptor of open county. Generally, the species is non-migratory in MT; however, some seasonal elevation shifts (vertical migration) may occur as birds seek milder habitats and reliable winter food sources. Birds nest in cliffs or large trees (or power poles) in proximity to low relief, open foraging areas. First breeding occurs at 4 to 5 years of age. Eggs are laid in large stick nests in March or April. Clutch size is 1 to 3. Incubation lasts approximately 45 days with birds subsequently fledging at 10 weeks. Diet consists primarily of medium-sized mammals, water fowl and upland gamebirds. Golden eagles will also take young deer and antelope as well as avail themselves of carrion and livestock.
Distribution:	Golden eagles occur throughout the northern half of North America. They may be found anywhere in MT and ID in appropriate habitats.
Habitat:	Preferred habitat includes open country habitat types (prairie, shrubsteppe, open forests) supporting prey species in proximity to cliffs, tall trees, power poles or other perching or nesting areas. Preferred cliffs have southern or eastern exposures. Eagle may hunt from perches in some environments. Wintering is typically in lower elevation sites.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	This species occurs throughout project area.
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007

Great gray owl	*Strix nebulosa*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	MT: Sensitive Species
USFS Status:	None
Montana Status:	Tier 2
Idaho Status:	Protected nongame
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Great gray owls are a forest species of the north. Nesting begins in March and April with nest constructed atop snags or in the abandoned nests of other raptors. Egg laying begins in early May. Clutch size ranges from 2 to 5 with eggs incubated for 28 to 29 days. Fledging begins at approximately

	4 weeks. Young are at least partially dependent on parents for 5 months. Great gray owls are active predators with small mammals forming the bulk of their diet. Birds hunt in forest clearings and open edges. Diurnal hunting is not uncommon. In winter great gray owls use sound to locate prey occupy subnivian habitats. They are considered non-migratory; however, they may wander widely in search of winter forage.
Distribution:	Great gray owls occur in the far north with an arm of their distribution extending along the spine of the Rocky Mountains to central ID and western WY.
Habitat:	Specific habitat requirements are ill-defined in our area. Great gray owls occupy dense forested habitats with mature trees and snags, complex structure and clearings. Foraging habitat includes clearings, forest edges and meadows. During winter they may range widely into prairie habitats in search of small mammal prey.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Primarily migratory throughout MT and ID, potential breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2, 28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007

Greater sage grouse	*Centrocercus urophasianus*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	MT: Sensitive Species ID: Sensitive Species Type 2
USFS Status:	Sensitive
Montana Status:	Tier 1
Idaho Status:	Game Bird
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	The greater sage grouse are a sagebrush obligate species finding summer habitat in the Great Basin and environs. Birds are non-migratory but may shift seasonally from breeding and wintering habitats. In spring birds congregate at courtship sites called leks. Breeding birds arrive in the Bozeman area from mid to late May and depart in mid-August. Clutch size averages 3.26 in nests build 6 16 inches above the ground. The nesting period lasts from mid-June to mid-July. Diet consists of sagebrush, tender forbs and insects. Insects are particularly relished by chicks.
Distribution:	Greater sage grouse historically occupied sagebrush habitats throughout the upper interior west. With the decline of sagebrush ecosystem distribution has become increasingly limited with some populations isolated.
Habitat:	Greater sage grouse is considered a sagebrush obligate species. Life history stages are associated with sagebrush steppe habitats of varying composition. Sagebrush and associated shrubs and forbs are used for forage, cover shade. Birds will follow seasonal moisture patterns and sometimes occupy agricultural fields and bottomland adjacent to sagebrush habitats during the driest parts of summer. Open areas are used for courtship gatherings (leks).
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	This species occurs throughout quality sagebrush habitats of the project area, potential breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2, 28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas

	NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007

Loggerhead shrike	*Lanius ludovicianus*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	MT: Sensitive Species
USFS Status:	None
Montana Status:	Tier 2
Idaho Status:	Protected nongame
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	The loggerhead shrike is a medium-size predaceous songbird of shrub habitats of the Great Basin and environs. The birds are migratory in our area with the first birds arriving in MT from late April to mid-May and departing from early August to early September. Clutch size varies from 1to9 with 5 to 6 eggs being most common. Nesting lasts from mid-June to mid-July. Prey include a variety of insects and small vertebrates (lizards, small mammals and other birds) taken by hooked beak. Loggerhead shrikes lack talons and typically impale food items on thorns for support while renting soft tissues
Distribution:	This species breeds throughout open shrub country of the upper Midwest and intermountain west. Species distribution shifts southward during winter.
Habitat:	The loggerhead shrike is a species of low relief shrubsteppe and grass/ shrublands supporting an abundance of insects and small vertebrate prey. It is typically absent for forested areas.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2, 28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007

Long-billed curlew	*Numerius americanus*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	MT: Sensitive Species; ID: Sensitive Species Type 5
USFS Status:	None
Montana Status:	Tier 1
Idaho Status:	Protected nongame
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	The long-billed curlew is an open country shorebird species finding summer habitat in the Great Basin and environs. Breeding birds lay eggs in MT from late May to mid-June. Nests are constructed one the ground among bunch grasses. Nests are vigorously defended by both parents. Diet includes a variety of invertebrates. Long-billed curlews may probe deeply for earthworms in moist earth. In the fall birds depart for winter range, forming winter colonies at coastal tidal flats in CA, TX and Mexico.
Distribution:	The long-billed curlew is a bird of open country whose breeding distribution sweeps from British Columbia through the Great Basin and to the western margin of the Great Plains
Habitat:	Preferred habitat includes open country of native grass prairies, mixed grasslands and shrub/grasslands.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Primarily migratory throughout MT and ID, potential breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2,

	28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007

Marbled godwit	*Limosa fedoa*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	MT: Sensitive Species
USFS Status:	None
Montana Status:	Tier 2
Idaho Status:	Protected nongame
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	The marbled godwit is a large shorebird finding summer habitat in native grasslands and wetlands of the upper Great Plains. Timing of reproduction is not well described for our area. Males initiate ground nest construction. Clutch size is typically 4 eggs with eggs present in nests from mid-April to mid-June. Fall migration is in mid-September. Food items include insects, annelids (earthworms and leeches), small fish and succulent aquatic tubers.
Distribution:	Breeding range includes the upper Great Plains including north eastern and north central Montana. Birds winter along the CA and Gulf coasts.
Habitat:	Marbled godwits breed in open country with sparse vegetation in association with native grasses and wetlands. Ground nest are located in native prairie often at some distance to open water sources.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Primarily migratory throughout MT and ID, potential breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2, 28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007

McCown's longspur	*Calcarius mccownii*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	Sensitive
USFS Status:	None
Montana Status:	Tier 2
Idaho Status:	Protected nongame
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	McCown's longspur is a songbird of grassland habitats occupying sparsely vegetated environments of the shortgrass prairie. Spring migration in MT lasts from late April to early May. This species is known for the dynamic aerial courtship displays of males. Clutch size varies from 2 to 6. Food items include insects and seeds obtained on the ground. Birds depart for winter range during the last half of September.
Distribution:	Breeding range is from southern Alberta and Saskatchewan southward to northeastern CO. Winter range is found in south TX and Mexico.
Habitat:	Preferred habitat includes sparsely vegetated and bare habitats within the shortgrass prairie. Dry habitats seem to be preferred.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Primarily migratory throughout MT and ID, potential breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2, 28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).

Sources: IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007

Mountain plover	*Charandrius montanus*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	Sensitive
USFS Status:	None
Montana Status:	Tier 1
Idaho Status:	Does not occur
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	The mountain plover is a shorebird of open prairie country east of the continental divide. In MT, birds arrive from winter range during April; winter migration occurs during late September. Prey items include a variety of insects.
Distribution:	The mountain plover is a species of the western high plains occurring in appropriate habitats from MT south to northeastern NM. Winter range is in a band from the central valley of CA to the northeast coast of Mexico.
Habitat:	Preferred habitat includes prairie dog towns and other shortgrass prairie sites with good visibility and abundant forbs. Birds may seek cover in burrows. In tallgrass areas, prairie dog colonies provide the only habitat.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Primarily migratory throughout MT and ID, potential breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2, 28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007

North American wolverine	*Gulo gulo*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	MT: Sensitive Species; ID: Sensitive Species Type 3
USFS Status:	Sensitive
Montana Status:	Tier 2
Idaho Status:	Protected nongame
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	The wolverine is a wide ranging carnivore of the boreal wilderness. They occur at very low densities ranging across vast home ranges in search of prey. Individuals reach breeding age at 2 years. Females are monstrous with breeding occurring during the period from April to July. Following delay uterine implantation, true gestation lasts 30 to 40 days. Two to four young are born in dens during late winter and early spring. They are primarily nocturnal. Diet is omnivorous with a great variety of items being taken. Food items include berries, tender roots, small mammals, birds, eggs, medium-sized mammals, ungulates and carrion. Wolverines are aggressive and bold hunters, sometimes being successful taking prey many times their size.
Distribution:	The bulk of the distribution of the North American wolverine is in Alaska and Canada. Confirmed populations occur in ID and MT. They are occasionally sited further south in the Rocky mountains. A recent photograph revealed their presence in the Sierra Nevada mountains of California. The species is considered holarctic.
Habitat:	Wolverines require large intact expanses of coniferous forest at mid-

	elevations. They appear to seasonally shift in elevation, occupying lower elevation sites in search of ungulate carrion during winter. Den habitat includes subalpine boulder piles and talus. Because they are so wide-ranging, individuals may be encountered in atypical habitats.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Primarily migratory throughout MT and ID, potential breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2, 28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007; Nowak 1991

Northern leopard frog	*Rana pipiens*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	MT: Sensitive Species; ID: Sensitive Species Type 2
USFS Status:	Sensitive
Montana Status:	Tier 1
Idaho Status:	Protected nongame
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	The northern leopard frog is a slim bodied active frog of northern latitudes. Breeding commences as soon as aquatic habitats are ice free. Males produce a variety of call to attract females and establish breeding territories. Egg masses are flattened spheres attached to submerged vegetation. Hatching and development varies considerably with water temperature. Breeding age is reached at 2 or 3 years. Northern leopard frogs will consume any live prey that can be swallowed including, insects, small mammals, garter snakes, leeches, snails, fish and other frogs.
Distribution:	The northern leopard frog is distributed in a wide band across the northern tier states and through out the Rocky Mountain states. Disjunct populations exist in CA, OR, and NV. Distribution becomes spotty as it moves into the southwest. Frogs are absent from many historic sites.
Habitat:	Habitat includes slow moving streams, bogs, wet meadows, ponds and other water bodies with emergent vegetation in proximity to grasslands, shrublands and forests. Northern leopard frogs require permanent standing water but may forage far from water during damp conditions.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Northern leopard frogs occur in Primarily migratory throughout MT and ID, potential breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2, 28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007; Nussbaum et al 1983, Stebbins 2005

Peregrine falcon	*Falco peregrinus*
USFWS Status:	De-listed
BLM Status:	MT: Sensitive Species; ID: Sensitive Species Type 3
USFS Status:	Sensitive
Montana Status:	Tier 2
Idaho Status:	Threatened
Listing Data:	N/a
Natural History:	Peregrine falcons are a raptorial species of open county adjacent to high relief areas. Birds are migratory arriving in breeding areas in our region in

	late April to early May. Nests are constructed on ledges of high cliffs. Nesting occurs during June and July. Clutch size averages 4 with incubation lasting 32 to 35 days. Young fledge at 39 to 49 days. First breeding is at 2 to 3 years of age. Peregrine falcons feed primarily on other birds taken on the wing. Hunting from perches is common when perches are near food sources.
Distribution:	Distribution is nearly worldwide in appropriate habitats
Habitat:	Preferred habitat consists of cliff dominated landscapes with open areas supporting abundant prey. An aquatic element is usually present. Nests are constructed on high ledges with a sheltering overhang. Manmade features (including bridges, buildings and quarries) may be substituted for natural cliffs.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Primarily migratory throughout MT and ID, potential breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2, 28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007

Plains spadefoot	*Spea bombifrons*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	MT: Sensitive Species
USFS Status:	Sensitive
Montana Status:	Tier 2
Idaho Status:	N/a
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Plains spadefoot is a species of mixed grass prairie and sagebrush habitats. Breeding calls of plains spadefoots may be heard throughout the late spring and summer in appropriate habitats. Timing of reproduction varies considerably with local conditions and availability of standing water for breeding. Significant rain events may trigger breeding. Eggs are deposited in flooded areas and ephemeral pools (although some permanent sites are used) hatching in 2 to 3 days; tadpoles metamorphosize in as few as 21 days in warm drying pools. Diet consists primarily of small terrestrial invertebrates. Larvae consume organic debris; some may develop a carnivorous lifestyle.
Distribution:	This species occurs primarily east of the Rocky Mountains in the western Plains states. The southern portion of the distribution extends westward to capture portions of NM and northern AZ.
Habitat:	Preferred habitat includes open country with grasslands, shrubsteppe and mixed shrub/ grass habitats with loose soil for burrowing and supporting temporary or seasonal breeding pools.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Primarily migratory throughout MT and ID, potential breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2, 28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007

Pygmy rabbit	*Brachylagus idahoensis*
USFWS Status:	None

BLM Status:	MT: Sensitive Species; ID: Sensitive Species Type 2
USFS Status:	Sensitive
Montana Status:	Tier 1
Idaho Status:	Upland game animal
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	The pygmy rabbit is a sagebrush shrub obligate species of the intermountain west. It is the smallest North American rabbit. Timing of reproduction is ill described. The breeding period extends form February to May with litters ranging from 4 to 8 offspring. Lactation appears to last until August. Females may be diestrous. During winter pygmy rabbits readily utilize the subnivean environment to find abundant food and avoid predators. Sagebrush is the primary food source; however, in summer tender forbs may be taken opportunistically.
Distribution:	Distribution includes the sagebrush steppe ecosystem of the Great Basin. Pygmy rabbits occur from western WY west to eastern OR and from southwestern MT southward to UT and central NV.
Habitat:	Preferred habitat includes high quality sagebrush steppe habitats with suitable soil for burrows and little habitat fragmentation.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Important habitat is located in eastern ID, particularly the INL. potential breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2, 28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).
Sources:	Green and Flinders 1980, IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007

Sage sparrow	*Amphispiza belli*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	MT Sensitive, ID type 2
USFS Status:	None
Montana Status:	Tier 3
Idaho Status:	Protected nongame
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Sage sparrows are a shrub obligate species finding summer habitat in the Great Basin, desert southwest and environs. Birds winter in southern Utah, Arizona and New Mexico south to central Mexico. During breeding, clutch size is 2 to 6 with eggs laid in nests placed in or below shrubs. Birds spend much of their time running across the ground among shrubs.
Distribution:	This is a bird of the sagebrush and chaparral communities of the interior west.
Habitat:	Although considered a bird of sagebrush habitats, sage sparrow often occur in other open shrubby habitats and chaparral. Occurrence is limited in habitats degraded by grazing or converted to agriculture.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	This is a denizen of sagebrush communities within the project area. potential breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2, 28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007

Sage thrasher	*Oreoscoptes montanus*
USFWS Status:	None

BLM Status:	MT Sensitive ID type 2
USFS Status:	None
Montana Status:	Tier 3
Idaho Status:	Protected nongame
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Sage thrashers are a shrub obligate species finding summer habitat in the western US. Breeding birds arrive in MT in late April and depart in early August. Clutch size ranges from 3 to 5 in a nest built in sagebrush or on the ground. . The nesting period lasts from mid-May to mid-July. Prey consists of insects captured from the ground among sagebrush.
Distribution:	This species is dependant on appropriate sagebrush habitats with large patch size. It occurs throughout the west in these areas. Birds find winter habitat in southwest Texas and northern Mexico.
Habitat:	Preferred habitat consists of quality sagebrush habitats with little grass. Conversion of native shrubsteppe to grasslands or agriculture limit occurrence. Species rarely occurs near towns
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Finds breeding habitat in quality shrubsteppe throughout area. potential breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2, 28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007

St Anthony sand dune tiger beetle	*Cicindela arenicola*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	ID Sensitive Species Type 2
USFS Status:	None
Montana Status:	N/a
Idaho Status:	None
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	St Anthony sand dune tiger beetles are an Idaho endemic insect inhabiting dunes and sandy areas of the eastern and central Snake River Plain. Larvae develop in burrows in grassy areas with deep sands. Tiger beetles are active opportunistic predators of other ground dwelling insects.
Distribution:	Species appears endemic to the eastern Snake River Plain. Counties of occurrence include Fremont, Jefferson, Clark, Bonneville, Bannock, Power, Blain, Minidoka and Lincoln. Species may also occur in Madison and Bingham counties.
Habitat:	Preferred habitat includes dune systems with deep sands with sparse vegetation. However, beetles may occur in other sandy areas. Windward areas with sand at least one meter deep and higher grass densities are selected as breeding sites.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Potential to occur near links in sandy substrate.
Sources:	IDFG 2005, NatureServe 2007

Swainson's hawk	*Buteo swainsonii*
USFWS Status:	None

BLM Status:	MT Sensitive ID: Sensitive Species Type 5
USFS Status:	None
Montana Status:	Tier 2
Idaho Status:	Protected non-game
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Swainson's hawks are a widespread migratory hawk of open country with sparse woody vegetation and river bottoms. They arrive from winter habitat from later April to May. June is the common nesting month with 1 to 3 eggs laid relatively low in low trees or large shrubs. Incubation lasts 28 days; young fledge be early August. Swainson's hawks may form substantial congregations prior to migration to winter range in September. Prey items include small mammals (mice ground squirrels and gophers), songbirds and insects. The species successfully hunts over agricultural fields.
Distribution:	Swainson's hawks occur throughout the western half of North America. Birds predominantly winter in the pampas of Argentina; however some wintering occurs from the extreme southern US and southward.
Habitat:	Historically a species of open grasslands with sparse shrub cover or diffuse woodlands. Birds have adapted well to forge over agricultural fields of lower growing crops. Tall growing crops species make it difficult to locate prey. In ID species prefers to nest in trees and shrubs near riparian areas adjacent to agricultural lands.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Species occurs throughout MT and ID. Species is abundant in ID. potential breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2, 28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007

Townsend's big-eared bat	*Corynorhinus townsendii*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	ID Sensitive Species Type 3
USFS Status:	Sensitive
Montana Status:	Tier 3
Idaho Status:	Protected non-game
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Townsend's big-eared bat is an insectivorous bat species inhabiting woody species habitats (shrub or tree) in proximity to cave, mine or rock roost sites. A highly secretive species, little is known about seasonal movements and reproduction in our area. It is presumed to be a regional hibernator, forming hibernation colonies in caves and mines providing appropriate thermal conditions. Bats begin gathering at hibernation sites in September with all bats departing these areas by mid-May. Males maintain a vagrant solitary existence during summer; females form maternity colonies in warm caves or mines. During the summer activity season bats may shuttle significant distances between important habitat features (day roosts, night roosts, feeding areas, and water) and may therefore be incidentally encountered in a great variety of habitat types. Females are particularly sensitive to disturbance when gathered in summer maternity colonies. Townsend's big-eared bat is a moth specialist feeder preying on moth

	species associated with high quality shrubsteppe and forest environments Prey are often captured near vegetation surfaces.
Distribution:	Townsend's big-eared bat occurs throughout the west in appropriate habitats
Habitat:	Preferred habitat includes high quality wood species environments (shrubsteppe or forests) with abundant moth prey, water sources and roosting opportunities (caves or mines). Bachelor males may roost in rock cracks, talus and boulder piles as well. Habitat conversion and fragmentation has been implicated in declines.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Townsend's big-eared bat may be found throughout the project area. Some of its best regional habitat is in sagebrush steppe of INL., potential breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2, 28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007

Trumpeter swan	*Cygnus buccinator*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	MT: ID: Sensitive Species Type 3
USFS Status:	Sensitive
Montana Status:	Tier 1
Idaho Status:	Game Bird
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Migratory and resident trumpeter swans occur in our area. Migratory birds arrive from Canada in November and December to over winter. Wintering birds depart in early March to early April. Breeding birds begin nesting in later April in the intermountain west. Clutch size varies with 5 being typical. Incubation lasts 33 to 37 days. Fledging occurs at 100 to 120 days. Nestling may remain together for a few years. Breeding occurs at 4 to 5 years. Diet consists of submerged and emergent vegetation. In some areas, discarded field potatoes are an important winter food source.
Distribution:	The trumpeter swan is a widely distributed bird of the north with the core of its range being in Alaska and Canada. Wintering populations occur along the northwest Pacific Coast, the Sierras, the intermountain region and the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. Some resident populations breed in isolated aquatic areas within the winter range.
Habitat:	Preferred habitat in our area includes a variety of aquatic and wetland habitats, including rivers, lakes and reservoirs. Agricultural field with discard corn, potatoes and other crops provide important wintering areas. Nesting habitat includes open water areas with isolated mounds, islands or beaver dens providing nesting sites protected from predators.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Birds within the project area are part of the "tri-state" population concentrated along the Henry's Fork and South Fork of the Snake River, potential breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2, 28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007

Western spotted skunk	*Spirogale gracilis*

USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	MT: Sensitive Species
USFS Status:	None
Montana Status:	Tier 2
Idaho Status:	Furbearing animal; Predatory species
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Western spotted skunks are a species of dry rugged west. Females enter estrous in September with implantation delayed until the following spring. Typically 4 young are born in late April or May. Male may reach breeding age at 3 or 4 months. Diet items include insects, reptiles, amphibians, small mammals, small birds and berries.
Distribution:	The western spotted skunk occurs throughout the western US west of an irregular line running through west TX, the panhandle of OK, eastern CO, central WY and southwestern MT. The distribution further extends southward to northern Mexico and northward along the Pacific coast into British Columbia.
Habitat:	Western spotted skunks are typically found in rugged rocky canyons and on hillsides with dense underbrush. Dens under boulders, fallen logs or in burrows are used for loafing and bearing young
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Primarily migratory throughout MT and ID, potential breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2, 28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007; Verts et al 2001

Western toad	*Bufo boreas boreas*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	MT: Sensitive Species ID type 2
USFS Status:	Sensitive
Montana Status:	Tier 1
Idaho Status:	Protected non-game
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Breeding period of the western toad in our region extends from April to mid-July. At high elevations breeding may commence while ice is present. Adults aggregate at permanent water sources to seek mates. Timing of egg deposition will vary with site characteristics. Clutch size may be as high as 20,000eggs. Tadpoles may be present from late May to early September. During cold years, tadpoles may fail to metamorphose. There are no records of tadpoles overwintering successfully. Adult western toads will seek shelter by burrowing into loose soil or using burrows of other animals. Prey items include a variety of insects and other small invertebrates. Larvae feed on decaying aquatic vegetation.
Distribution:	This is a toad of the Northwest occurring from the Rocky Mountains of MT and WY westward to the Pacific coast and then north to British Columbia and the panhandle of Alaska. Distribution fades moving south into UT and NV.
Habitat:	Habitats include ponds, slow streams, marshes, wet meadow and other permanent water sources. Species may be encountered in adjacent open canopy forests, willow thickets, cottonwood galleries, grasslands and

	shrublands. May range from mesic habitats some distance into adjacent xeric ones while foraging.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	May be encountered in appropriate habitats within the project area, potential breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2, 28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007; Nussbaum 1983

White-faced ibis	*Plegadis chihi*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	MT Sensitive ID Sensitive Species Type 4
USFS Status:	None
Montana Status:	Tier 2
Idaho Status:	Protected non-game
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	White-faced ibis arrive in MT throughout spring with the most concentrated arrival during May. Breeding colonies form at wetlands, marshes and ponds with pockets of dense emergent vegetation providing cover and support for platform nests. Clutch size varies from 2 to 7 eggs with 3 to 4 being typical. Incubation is approximately 22 days. Young fledge at 28 days and breed at 2 years. Fall departure begins in August with all birds en route to winter range by September. Diet consists primarily of aquatic and moist soil invertebrates.
Distribution:	White-faced ibis occurs in breeding colonies throughout northern California, southeastern Oregon, southern Idaho and eastward to the Dakotas and northwest Iowa. Birds occur as far north as Alberta.
Habitat:	Preferred habitat includes a variety of aquatic and wetland habitats with dense emergent vegetation. Platform nest are constructed above standing water in bulrushes (or other sturdy vegetation) and depend on reliable water levels. Adults may range far to forage, attending shallow wetlands and flooded agricultural fields. Post-breeding adults congregate at mudflats.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	May breed in appropriate areas throughout project area, potential breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2, 28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007

Willet	*Tringa semipalmata*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	MT Sensitive ID type 2
USFS Status:	None
Montana Status:	Tier 3
Idaho Status:	Protected non-game
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	The willet is a large sandpiper arriving in MT during mid-May and beginning nesting. Nests are constructed on the ground in native

	grasslands. Clutch size is typically 4. Birds fledge in mid-June. Birds depart by September for winter range in California and the Gulf states. Diet consists of insects, mollusks annelid worms and small fish.
Distribution:	The willet is a species of the interior west and coastal beaches of both coasts.
Habitat:	Typical habitats include lakeshores, mudflats and marshes in open country. Nesting habitat is in broad native grasslands with nests constructed in proximity to wood, stones or dung near wetlands providing foraging habitat. Willets avoid dense vegetation.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	May breed in appropriate environments throughout project area. Potential breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2, 28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007

Wilson's phalarope	*Phalaropus tricolor*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	ID Sensitive species Type 5
USFS Status:	None
Montana Status:	Tier 3
Idaho Status:	Protected non-game
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	Wilson's phalarope is a small aquatic sandpiper finding breeding habitat in wetland areas throughout the northern interior of North America. Wintering occurs in the central Andes. Birds arrive in MT in early May. Nesting occurs in June with typical clutch size of 5 eggs. Parental care exhibits sex role reversal with males incubating eggs and providing care of young. Diet consists of a variety of small invertebrates taken from freshwater, hypersaline aquatic and upland environments. Bird often feed while in open water.
Distribution:	Wilson's phalarope occurs during the breeding season from the southern Yukon south to northern New Mexico and Texas, west to central California and east to Iowa.
Habitat:	Preferred habitat includes a variety of high-quality aquatic and wetland habitats in open country. Areas include lakes ponds and flooded fields.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	This species finds breeding habitat throughout the project area in appropriate wetland and aquatic environments, potential breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2, 28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007

Yellow rail	*Coturnicops noveboracensis*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	MT: Sensitive
USFS Status:	None
Montana Status:	Tier 1
Idaho Status:	Non-game Protected
Listing Data:	None

Natural History:	The yellow rail is a secretive species, seldom seen in most settings. They are presumed to occur as migrants, being observed from May through August in MT. Breeding occurs predominantly in Canada with wintering in California or the Gulf Coast. Birds are not confirmed to breed in our area, although breeding habitat exists in numerous locations and breeding calls have been detected. Diet consists of small invertebrates and vegetation (grasses, seeds, clover leaves). Snails are an important food source for young. Yellow rails are diurnal feeders but nocturnal breeding callers.
Distribution:	The yellow rail is a species of southern Canada and the northern tier states of the US. There are few confirmed records for ID with none prior to 1974.
Habitat:	Preferred habitat includes wet sedge meadows and other wetlands with a significant vegetation component of grasses and rushes and characterized by seasonal water level fluctuations (summer drying).
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Considered a migrant through the project area. The species is little known for ID; multiple breeding calls have been detected at Market Lake WMA. potential breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2, 28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).
Sources:	IBRC 2008, IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007

Yellow-billed cuckoo	*Cuccyzus americanus*
USFWS Status:	Candidate
BLM Status:	MT: ID: Sensitive Species Type 1
USFS Status:	None
Montana Status:	Tier 2
Idaho Status:	Protected non-game
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	There is no evidence of breeding by this species in MT. In areas with known breeding, clutch size varies with food abundance and ranges from 1 to five eggs. Incubation lasts 9 to 11 days. Diet consists of insects, small fruits, small lizards and frogs. Prey are often greened from vegetation. Yellow-billed cuckoos will pursue fly prey from perches.
Distribution:	The western subspecies of the yellow-billed cuckoo occurs in widely scattered locations supporting suitable habitat throughout Arizona, California, Idaho, New Mexico, Nevada and Texas.
Habitat:	The western yellow-billed cuckoo is a riparian obligate species that breeds along rivers and streams where mature stands of trees (typically willow or cottonwood) are present. They utilize large blocks of riparian habitat, usually more than 25 acres in size. Cottonwoods also provide foraging habitat for the species. Dense understory vegetation is an important factor for nest sites. The species is considered to have one of the most restrictive suites of habitat requirements of any North American bird species
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	potential breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2, 28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007, USFWS 2007

Gray wolf	*Canis lupus*
USFWS Status:	Endangered, experimental non-essential
BLM Status:	MT: Special Status; ID: Sensitive species Type 1
USFS Status:	De-listed
Montana Status:	Tier 1
Idaho Status:	Big Game Animal
Listing Data:	De-listed 2/28/2008
Natural History:	Wolves are large canids
Distribution:	Known to occur in
Habitat:	Gray wolves may be found in any habitat within their distribution supporting native ungulate prey.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Primarily migratory throughout MT and ID, potential breeding near Helena (links 1, 2, 3, and 4-1 – 4-3), American Falls Reservoir (links 26-2, 28), Mud Lake WMA and Camas NWF (links 21-24), and along the Snake River (Links 26-3, 26-4).
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007

Spotted bat	*Euderma maculatum*
USFWS Status:	None
BLM Status:	ID type 2
USFS Status:	None
Montana Status:	Tier 3
Idaho Status:	Non-game Protected
Listing Data:	None
Natural History:	The spotted bat is a bat of the rugged west roosting in high cliff faces and emerging at night to forage over open shrub/scrub country and above forests. Little is known about the timing of reproduction, migration or hibernation in our region. The spotted bat appears to be a moth specialist. Echolocation calls appear to limit prey detection to targets greater than 1 cm. Bats typically forage high above the ground producing audible search calls.
Distribution:	Distribution is throughout the west in appropriate habitats with cliff faces in association woody species plant communities supporting moth prey species. In general, the species is widely distributed at very low densities; however, it may occur in considerable numbers at a few hot spots. Distribution extends from British Columbia southward to Durango, Mexico. The eastern limit to the spotted bat's distribution is not well described.
Habitat:	The spotted bat is a species of open, wood species habitats (forests and mixed shrub or desert scrub) in proximity to high wall cliffs providing fissures and cracks for roosting.
Status on Site (see Vol. II Impact Data Table CD):	Recent records obtained near Dillon MT have extended the species range.
Sources:	IDFG 2005, MTFWP 2008, NatureServe 2007